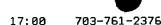


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October 15, 2003

## VIA FACSIMILE

To: Examiner Kathleen J. Prunner

Group Art Unit No. 3751

U.S.P.T.O.

From: James E. Howard

Facsimile No.: (703) 872-9303

Facsimile No.: (703) 761-2375 (76)

Re:

Enclosed § 1.116 Amendment

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/040,491

Our Ref: ORI.052

FFICIAL

## Dear Examiner Prunner:

Enclosed is the Amendment, responsive to the July 15, 2003 Office Action, which should place the above-referenced case in condition for allowance.

Thank you in advance for your consideration on this case.

Very truly yours,

James E. Howard

JEH/kzw Enclosure

Total No. of Pages Transmitted: 17